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\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice limited to  
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Commissioner for Patents  
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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 10/617,465; Filed: July 11, 2003  
For: Security Association Updates in a Packet Load-Balanced System  
Inventors: BUER *et al.*  
Our Ref: 2875.0370001

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a);
2. Brief on Appeal under 37 C.F.R. §41.37; and
3. Online Credit Card Payment Authorization for \$970.00 to cover: \$460.00 extension of time fee; and \$510.00 Appeal Brief fee.

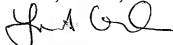
The above-listed documents are filed electronically through EFS-Web.

Fee payment is provided through online credit card payment. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcards be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lori A. Gordon', written over the printed name.

Lori A. Gordon

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RES/LAG:mlb  
Enclosures  
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